

REMARKS

On page 2 of the Action, the disclosure was objected to. In view of the objection, the specification has been amended. Also, in order to clearly explain the invention, numerals have been added into the drawings, and the explanations about the numerals have been made in the specification. Please enter the amendment and approve the drawing correction.

On page 2 of the Action, claims 1 and 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zeuner et al. On page 3 of the Action, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hock et al.

In view of the rejections, claims 3 and 4 have been cancelled, and claims 1, 2 and 5 have been amended. Also, new claims 6 and 7 have been added.

As clearly recited in amended claim 1, a gas generator of the invention comprises a container having an outer shell, a gas initiator disposed in the container, a squib disposed adjacent to the gas initiator for igniting the gas initiator and having a squib holder with a shoulder, and a partition disposed in the outer shell for dividing the container into a plurality of gas initiator chambers.

In the invention, the partition has projections projecting from an inner peripheral surface of the partition. When the squib holder is inserted into the partition, the shoulder of the squib holder abuts against the projections to position the squib inside the partition.

In the invention, the projections can be easily formed by punching and the like from the outside of the partition while forming dents on the outer surface of the partition.

In Zeuner et al. cited in the Action, a gas generator includes a housing 2, a central tube 1 situated in a center of the housing 2, and an igniter 5 situated in the tube 1. In the Examiner's opinion shown in the attachment #1 in the Action, a stepped portion

and a collar are formed in the central tube 1, and a squib holder engages the stepped portion.

In claim 1 of the invention now amended, the partition has projections projecting from an inner peripheral surface of the partition. In the Examiner's opinion, the stepped portion and the collar are formed in the central tube. However, claim 2 reciting the projections are not rejected by Zeuner et al. in the Action. Since amended claim 1 has the projections, claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested in Zeuner et al.

In Hock et al., an inflator assembly 10 includes an upper shell 14 having a cylindrical partition 24, and a lower shell 16. A squib 56 is located inside the partition 24 and is supported by a support member (no numeral) integrally formed with the lower shell 16 (same section lines are used for the support member and the lower shell). In the attachment #2 of the Action, a positioning member is formed at a bottom of the partition 24.

In the invention, the partition has projections projecting from an inner peripheral surface of the partition so that when the squib holder is inserted into the partition, the shoulder of the squib holder abuts against the projections to position the squib inside the partition. In Hock et al., the positioning member that the Examiner referred to is located at the bottom of the partition 24 and does not engage the shoulder of the squib holder. In Hock et al., further, the squib 56 is supported by the support member integrally formed with the lower shell 16. Thus, the positioning member that the Examiner referred to does not operate as in the present invention.

Therefore, even if the positioning member is formed in the partition 24, the positioning member does not abut against the shoulder of the squib holder. The structure of the invention is not disclosed or suggested in Zeuner et al.

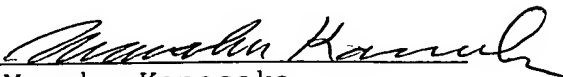
As explained above, the features now claimed in the invention are not disclosed or suggested in the cited references. Even if

the cited references are combined, the present invention is not obvious from the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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